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# STATE OF UTAH

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING 1588 West North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84116 (801) 533-5771

> MEMORANDUM \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

TO:

Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

FROM:

Mary Ann Wright, Reclamation Biologist

SUBJECT:

Jerika Nos. 1-51 Mine ACT/045/013 Tooele County, Utah

DATE:

May 28, 1981

The Division staff has reviewed the Mining and Reclamation Plan submitted by Jerika Mining Corporation for the Jerika Nos. 1-51 Mine and feels that the plan meets the requirements of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act. The Division seeks the Board's concurrence to issue tentative approval to this mine operation.

An Executive Summary is enclosed for your information.

The Division proposes a bond for the estimated amount of \$10,000.00 for the four acre operation. The Division requests the Board's approval on the amount and form of the surety.

MAW/te

Enclosure

Jerika Mining Corp.

Jerika Nos. 1-51 Mine
ACT/045/013
Sections 15, 16, 21, 22, 27 and 28,
Township 10 South, Range 5 West
Tooele County, Utah

## COMMODITY AND OWNERSHIP:

Jerika Mining Corporation proposes to mine for lead, silver and gold by a drift mining method.

The mine is on Wasatch National Forest land administered by Uintah Nation Forest. Mining will occur on unpatented mining claims in the Vernon district.

Jerika has operated a less than 2 acre exempted mine and plans to expand to 4 acres. A road comprises 60 acres from Vernon to the mine.

#### LOCATION:

The disturbance of the operation will be contained at the junctions of Section 15, 16, 21 and 22, Township 10 South, Range 5 West. This location is about 10 miles directly south of Vernon.

### GEOLOGY:

The mine is located in the Sheeprock Mountains. The strata is founded on a Pre-cambrian core sequence known as the Sheeprock Group. Faulted blocks of palezoic sediments and metasediments have been alterred by hydrothermal activity. It is along these fractures that mining interests are centered. Occasional Tertiary, granite intrusions occur and much of the area is covered by Tertiary and Quaternary alluvium and lacustrine deposits.

## HYDROLOGY:

The annual precipitation in this area is between 12 to 16 inches annually. Two ephemeral drainages intersect the site.

One drainage is totally obstructed by the mine pad and a road and has been obstructed historically by past mining and the existing Forest Service Road. The Forest Service is in agreement that the drainage may remain obstructed due to the hydrologic nature of the drainage. A second drainage contains a spring, adjacent to the pad. A small (6' x 8') dam across the drainage forms a pond for local stock watering and incidental mining uses. Water seeps through the base of this dam but does not appear to pose any threat to the dam's stability or to public safety in the event this dam fails.

No ground water has been encountered by the drift operation to date. However, should it be encountered, plans for disposing of the water will be presented for approval to the Division.

# SOILS:

Adequate growing medium exists at the site for stockpiling. Three piles exist at the site now and will be consolidated into one and seeded. Soils in the proposed waste dump area will be stockpiled and seeded. Volumes are being calculated and will be submitted as a condition to approval.

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#### **ECOLOGY:**

Vegetative cover at the site is 40% by ocular estimate. Reclamation must reclaim the land to at least 28%, prior to bond release. Cover consists of grasses and shrubs, the major species being sage and rabbitbrush.

No threatened or endangered plants are listed for Tooele County, Utah.

The area represents summer habitat for deer and tracks were observed at the site. The mine will and, by old operations, has impacted the area by removing 4 acres of wildlife and grazing habitat. The Forest Service recommended seed mix will restore the area to wildlife and livestock grazing at the end of mine life.

# EXISTING STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES:

Seven small shafts and one minor pit exist from previous mining at the site. One shaft will most likely be closed by the placement of the waste dump.

## MINING AND RECLAMATION PLAN:

### During Operations:

- 1. Topsoil will be bladed into storage piles and seeded to prevent erosion loss.
  - 2. Mining will involve drifting based on long hole exploration.
- 3. Rock waste material will be placed at a dump location adjacent to the portal site. A dike will contain runoff from the dump. Most rock waste will be used to backfill mine drifts and to contour grade areas during reclamation.
- 4. The access road will be maintained as per Forest Service specifications.
- 5. Temporary facilities at the site include an equipment trailer, living trailer, compressor and various earthwork equipment.

#### After Operations:

- 1. The tunnel entrance will be backfilled and the highwall face will be blasted to further close the tunnel and reduce the slope.
  - All equipment and trash will be removed from the site.
- The area will be graded and contoured and covered with the stockpiled soil.

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- 4. The site will be seeded and revegetated with a mix recommended by the Forest Service.
- 5. All reclamation will be carried out in accordance with normal mining engineering practices and consultation with competent geologists and mining engineers will be sought.

